

COLUMBIA TYPOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

RESOLUTIONS

OF

THE COLUMBIA TYPOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY,

RELATIVE TO

*The public printing by Congress.*

JULY 13, 1846.

Read, and laid upon the table.

COLUMBIA TYPOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY,  
Washington, July 12, 1846.

At a stated meeting of the Columbia Typographical Society, held on the 11th instant, the following resolutions were *unanimously* adopted:

*Resolved by the Columbia Typographical Society of the District of Columbia,* That, in regard to the propositions now pending before the House of Representatives to have the printing of Congress executed in future under the contract system, by the lowest bidder, it becomes a duty with those whose vitality, in a great measure, as a body, and subsistence as journeymen printers, will receive a deadly blow by the adoption of such system, (with all respect for that honorable body,) to remonstrate with the legislative branch of the government against fastening so destructive a principle upon our professional labors while in the employ of Congress or its agents.

1st. Because its natural tendency will be, by the force of excited competition, to depress the price of labor to so low a degree as to warrant only the employment of boys, runaway apprentices from other cities, &c.

2d. Because, by such tendency, journeymen who have served years to acquire the art of printing will be thrown from employment, and compelled, for the support of themselves and families, to seek other labor, of which they know little, and have been physically rendered incapable of performing to any extent.

3d. Because the work, necessarily executed, as it will be, upon inferior materials, and by bad workmen, when distributed by Congress, will be disreputable to that body and discreditable to the typographical craft of the metropolis.

4th. Because the past and present operations of the contract system in the executive departments of the government demonstrate the truth of the above positions, and should prevent the adoption of so niggardly a policy by the Congress of the United States.

*Resolved*, That these resolutions be signed by the officers of this society, and transmitted to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, with a request that they be laid before that body before the subject-matter to which they refer shall be further acted on in said House.

On behalf of the Columbia Typographical Society.

C. F. LOWREY, *President*.

JAMES D. CHEDAL,

*Vice President*.

PATRICK H. BROOKS,

*Corresponding Secretary*.

M. CATON, *Treasurer*.

THOMAS RICH, *Recording Secretary*.

WASHINGTON, July 13, 1846.

SIR: In accordance with instructions contained in the foregoing resolutions, I enclose you a copy of resolutions passed by the Columbia Typographical Society, with a request that you would lay them before the honorable body over which you preside.

I have the honor to remain yours, very respectfully,

C. F. LOWREY,

*President Columbia Typographical Society.*

HON. J. W. DAVIS,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*